

REMARKS

By this amendment, claims 110-131 are pending, in which claims 110, 111, 113, 115, 116, 118, 120, 121, 123, 125, 126 and 128 are currently amended, and claims 130-131 are newly presented. No new matter is introduced.

The Office Action mailed April 7, 2005 rejected claims 110-129 under 35 U.S.C. § 102 as anticipated by *Bartholomew et al.* (US 6,215,858).

In the interest of advancing prosecution, Applicants have amended independent claims 110, 115, 120 and 125. Amended independent claim 110 now recites “prompting a caller associated with the voicemail for a call back number, wherein the **call back number is attached to the voicemail message for automatic call back initiated by the subscriber.**” Claim 115 now amended as “wherein the user is prompted for a **callback number that is attached to the voicemail message for automatic callback initiated by a subscriber.**” Amended claim 120 recites “prompting the user for a call back number, wherein the **call back number is attached to the voicemail message for automatic call back initiated by a subscriber.**” Lastly, claim 125, as amended, includes the features of “wherein the user is prompted for a callback number, and the **callback number is attached to the voicemail message for automatic callback initiated by a subscriber of the voicemail services.**”

By contrast, the above features are absent from the applied art of *Bartholomew et al.*, which discloses (per the Abstract) a system for effecting transfer of a message such as a voice message from one multipurpose, multimode centralized messaging system in a first switched telephone network to a multipurpose, multimode centralized messaging system in a remote second switched telephone network, wherein each of the telephone networks includes central offices connected to subscriber terminals. *Bartholomew et al.* provides no capability for

“prompting a caller associated with the voicemail for a call back number, wherein the call back number is attached to the voicemail message for automatic call back initiated by the subscriber.”

As anticipation under 35 U.S.C. §102 requires that each and every element of the claim to be disclosed in a prior art reference, Applicants respectfully submit that this rejection is unsustainable as *Bartholomew et al.* fails to disclose all the features of the claimed invention. Accordingly, claims 110, 115, 120 and 125, and corresponding dependent claims 111-114, 116-119, 121-124, and 126-129 should be indicated as allowable. These dependent claims are also separately patentable on their own merits.

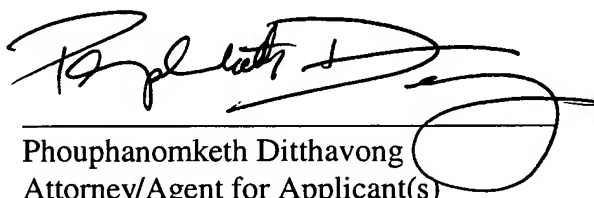
Turning now to newly added claims 130 and 131, claim 130, which depends from amended independent claim 110, recites “presenting the non-subscriber with a guest menu specifying a plurality of options corresponding to the voicemail.” Claim 131 (also depending from claim 110) recites “wherein the service node stores a phone number of the voicemail system if the voicemail system is external to the service node.” These new claims are allowable at least for the reasons put forth for the allowability of amended claim 110.

Therefore, the present application, as amended, overcomes the objections and rejections of record and is in condition for allowance. Favorable consideration is respectfully requested. If any unresolved issues remain, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned attorney at (703) 425-8508 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date


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